

REMARKS

Claims 35-62 were previously pending in the application. Claims 46-47 and 60-61 are canceled; and claims 35, 37, 39, 41, 42, 48, 49, 51, 53, 55, 56, and 62 are amended herein. Assuming the entry of this amendment, claims 35-45, 48-59, and 62 are now pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

Claims 47 and 61 have been canceled as redundant in view of the amendments to claims 35 and 49. Claims 42 and 56 have been amended to remove the recitations already present in amended independent claims 35 and 49, respectively. Claims 48 and 62 have been amended to depend directly from claims 35 and 49, respectively.

In paragraph 1 of the office action, the Examiner objected to claims 37, 39, 41, 51, 53, and 55 because these claims did not end in a period. These claims are amended herein to correct this informality.


In paragraph 3, the Examiner rejected claims 35-41 and 49-55 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Franklin. In paragraph 5, the Examiner rejected claims 44 and 58 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franklin in view of Koyama. In paragraph 6, the Examiner rejected claims 45 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franklin in view of Sasaki. In paragraph 7, the Examiner objected to claims 42, 43, 46-48, 56, 57, and 60-62 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that those claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 35 has been amended to include the recitations of claim 46 (now canceled). As such, amended claim 35 is equivalent to claim 46 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that claim 46 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that amended claim 35 is allowable. Similarly, claim 49 has been amended to include the recitations of claim 60 (now canceled). As such, amended claim 49 is equivalent to claim 60 rewritten in independent form. Since the Examiner stated that claim 60 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that amended claim 49 is allowable. Since the rest of the claims depend variously from claims 35 and 49, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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